



FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN  
PROGRESSIVE STUDIES  
FONDATION EUROPÉENNE  
D'ÉTUDES PROGRESSISTES



Fondation  
Jean Jaurès

**Lunch seminar**

**Reforming the EU: From Reflection to Political Action**  
***What is the Meseberg Agreement worth?***

**13 September 2018**

**12:30 - 14:30**

Light lunch will be served from noon

**FEPS Offices, Rue Montoyer, 40 - 1000 Brussels**

The 'reflection' period fed by the White Paper on the Future of Europe, including many reflection and position papers offered by the European Commission, governments and experts alike might soon come to an end. Are we finally entering into a period of political action?

After elections in France and Germany, political talks on how to relaunch the European project and redress the EMU became more concrete. The proposals by the Commission from December 2017 urge member states to identify ways to deepen the economic and political cooperation in the Monetary Union.

With the Meseberg agreement, Chancellor Merkel and President Macron redefine the terms of political action on which the Franco-German engine of integration will operate. To which extent does the agreement show a preference for community over intergovernmental solutions? Is it sufficient to make progress on the Banking Union's second pillar but not addressing the third? How to make the euro area stable if risk sharing is not seen as a method for risk reduction? Does it make sense to work together for tax convergence and leave the common consolidated corporate tax base (CCCTB) out of the picture? Why limiting the EU action on migration to a security issue and an allocation scheme?

On 13 September 2018, FEPS and the Jean Jaurès Foundation invite you to join a further reflection exercise on where politics should take us. With contributions by:

- **Peter Bofinger**
- **Marco Buti**
- **Gesine Schwan**
- **Michael Vincent**

Call to Europe is a conference format that aims at an EU wide debate with citizens empowered by FEPS in cooperation with its member foundations.



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### Programme

## Reforming the EU: From Reflection to Political Action

### *What is the Meseberg Agreement worth?*

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- 12:00 – 12.30 Registration and Lunch
- 12:30 – 12.35 Opening Remarks  
**Dr. Ernst Stetter**, Secretary General, FEPS
- 12:35– 13:50 Keynote Address  
**Prof. Peter Bofinger**, Chair for Monetary Policy and International Economics, University Würzburg and member of the German Council of Economic Experts
- 13:00 – 14: 30 Roundtable Debate on “Reforming the EU: From Reflection to Political Action”**
- Marco Buti**, Director-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission
- Prof. Gesine Schwan**, President, HUMBOLDT-VIADRINA Governance Platform
- Michael Vincent**, expert in financial regulation, University Pierre and Marie Curie, Paris, member of the Observatoire de l'économie of the Jean-Jaurès Foundation
- Moderator: **Dr. David Rinaldi**, Senior Economic Policy Advisor, FEPS



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## Food for thought

Jürgen Habermas, Peter Bofinger and Julian Nida-Rümelin, [Only deeper European unification can save the Eurozone](#), The Guardian, August 2012

Peter Bofinger, [Euro area reform: No deal is better than a bad deal](#), voxeu.org, May 2018

European Commission, [Reflection paper on the deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union](#), May 2017

Marco Buti, Gabriele Giudice, José Leandro, [Deepening EMU requires a coherent and well-sequenced package](#), voxeu.org, April 2018

Manuel de la Rocha, David Rinaldi, Victor Echevarría, [Progressive Reforms for Rebalancing the Eurozone](#), FEPS Policy Brief, November 2017

Pier Carlo Padoan, [The EU's future and the sovereign option](#), The Progressive Post, June 2018

Alexander Schellinger, Philipp Steinberg (eds.), [The Future of the Eurozone – How to keep Europe together: a progressive perspective from Germany](#), Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, transcript Verlag, 2017

SPD Commission for fundamental values, [Response to President Macron](#), available on FEPS website in DE, FR, EN, June 2018